Emergency Assistance for Non-Public Schools (EANS) Program Update #14

2/25/2022

Greetings Wisconsin EANS Program Participants and Interested Parties,

The purpose of this email is to provide some key updates regarding the ARP EANS program final allocations and upcoming CRRSA EANS deadlines.

ARP EANS

As many of you may know, DPI recently ran a 2nd ARP EANS application opportunity from Feb 14-22, 2022. This 2nd application was sent to those CRRSA EANS schools that had been determined eligible for ARP EANS but had not returned an application during the initial application window that ended on Dec 27, 2021. There were 43 additional schools that signed up for ARP EANS during the 2nd application window, bringing the total to 392. *Final ARP EANS allocations have now been posted to DPI's EANS webpage.* The final allocation spreadsheet can be found here:

https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/crrsaa/Final_ARP_EANS_allocations.xlsx

These final ARP EANS allocations are just under 8% lower for those schools that were identified from the 1st application period.

There is approximately \$73.5 million available to eligible private schools under ARP EANS and runs until Sept 30, 2024.

CESA 6 hosted a webinar on Thursday, February 3, 2022 for schools accepted into the 1st application round of the ARP EANS program. This introduced the program for schools that are new to EANS and provided an opportunity for schools that have been in "round 1" of EANS (CRRSA EANS) to learn about what will be the same and what will be different in ARP EANS. You may find the recording of this webinar and learn more about EANS at eans.cesa6.org. If you have questions, email EANS@cesa6.org.

Important Reminders

- ARP EANS only allows direct services, no past or future reimbursements.
- Because CRRSA and ARP EANS are authorized by separate federal laws, they must be
 administered and tracked separately. As such, participating schools will not be able to move
 funds between the two EANS programs. For example, schools cannot request to replace a
 CRRSA EANS expense with ARP EANS funds.
- Similarly, CESA 6 will provide separate forms for schools to use for the two programs.
- The property rules in ARP EANS will be the same as CRRSA EANS, including the retaining of public title to purchased goods and the \$5,000 supply threshold.

If you have questions about ARP EANS eligibility or allocations, please email <u>EANS@dpi.wi.gov</u> and someone from DPI will respond. All other program questions for both CRRSA and ARP EANS should go to <u>EANS@CESA6.org</u>.

CRRSA EANS

As of this week, CRRSA EANS schools have expended or encumbered \$47.3 million, or about 61.4% of the total funds available.

As was first communicated in Update #11 on Oct 27, 2021, **DPI has established a timeline for schools to use or encumber their CRRSA EANS allocation.**

The U.S. Department of Education's <u>most recent FAQ update</u> (see question B-16) clarified that, while states may establish an allocated amount of funds to support services and assistance for schools in the EANS program, that amount may not "artificially limit services or assistance to non-public schools". What this means is that if there are schools that will not spend the funds currently allocated, we have created an artificial limitation for schools that have used their funds and still have needs due to COVID-19. Here's how we plan to address this situation:

- Schools in the CRRSA EANS program will have until **May 13th, 2022** to use or encumber their allocated funds for future reimbursement and/or direct service.
- Any funds not encumbered or used by May 13th, 2022 will be pooled into a state-level fund source to support schools with continued need due to COVID-19.
- Schools may continue to submit claims for future reimbursement or direct service to CESA 6 after May 13, 2022; those claims will be reviewed on a monthly basis and approved based upon the extent of need in the school and availability of funds.
- The first new request process will begin on May 16, 2022 and run until June 10, 2022.

This solution will have provided approximately one year (from May 2021) for participating schools to plan how to use their CRSSA EANS funds while also ensuring that schools with continued needs are not necessarily limited in the services and assistance available to them by the initial allocations.

If your school has been approved for a future reimbursement or direct service that you **will NOT** be following through on, please alert CESA 6 NOW so we can liquidate that PO from your allocation. **Liquidations after 5/13/22 will be returned to the statewide pool.**

CESA 6 discussed this process in a Nov 4, 2021 webinar and has posted a recording and the slide deck to their Events & Learning page.

If your school determines that you no longer want or are eligible to participate in CRRSA or ARP EANS (i.e., you choose to accept a PPP loan), please notify us by emailing EANS@dpi.wi.gov. Please also use this email to notify the EANS program of any change in the EANS contact information for your school.

We look forward to serving schools for both the CRRSA and ARP EANS programs.

Sincerely,